

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. ***(Currently Amended)*** A container neck comprising:
 - a finish terminating in an opening;
 - a circumferential upper sidewall connected to said finish at an end opposite said opening;
 - a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and
 - a flange extending radially outward ~~from the neck~~ between said upper and said lower sidewalls, wherein the flange includes undulations on a top surface, the undulations extending radially outward from said upper sidewall.
2. ***(Original)*** The container neck of claim 1, wherein said undulations comprise peaks and valleys.
3. ***(Original)*** The container neck of claim 2, wherein said undulations are arcuate.
4. ***(Original)*** The container neck of claim 3, wherein said undulations form an approximately sinusoidal wave at the point of connection with said upper sidewall.
5. ***(Original)*** The container neck of claim 2, wherein said undulations have linear sides and a substantially triangular shape.
6. ***(Original)*** The container neck of claim 1, further comprising threads disposed on an outer surface of said finish.
7. ***(Previously Presented)*** The container neck of claim 1, wherein said flange comprises a ledge extending beyond an outer periphery of said undulations.

8. *(Previously Presented)* The container neck of claim 1, wherein the container is adapted for hot-fill processing.
9. *(Original)* The container neck of claim 2, comprising eight peaks.
10. *(Currently Amended)* A container comprising
a neck portion comprising
a finish terminating in an opening;
a circumferential upper sidewall connected to said finish at an end opposite said opening;
a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and
a flange extending radially outward from the neck between said upper and said lower sidewalls, wherein the flange includes undulations on a top surface, the undulations extending radially outward from said upper sidewall;
a transition region extending from the neck portion to a tubular container sidewall portion; and
a base portion below said container sidewall portion.
11. *(Previously Presented)* The container of claim 10, wherein said undulations are arcuate.
12. *(Original)* The container of claim 11, wherein said undulations form an approximately sinusoidal wave at the point of connection with said upper sidewall.
13. *(Original)* The container of claim 10, wherein said undulations are linear forming a triangular shape.

14. *(Original)* The container of claim 10, further comprising threads disposed on an outer surface of said finish.

15. *(Original)* The container of claim 10, wherein said undulations comprise peaks and valleys.

16. *(Previously Presented)* The container of claim 10, wherein the container is adapted for hot fill processing.

17. *(Previously Presented)* The container of claim 10, wherein said flange comprises a ledge extending beyond an outer periphery of said undulations.

18. *(Original)* The container of claim 15, comprising eight peaks.

19. *(Previously Presented)* The container of claim 10, said container sidewall portion comprising four substantially planar panels wherein opposite planar panels are substantially parallel.

20. *(Previously Presented)* The container of claim 19, wherein the container sidewall portion comprises an inset between two adjacent planar panels.

21. *(Previously Presented)* The container of claim 19, wherein said container sidewall portion comprises an arcuate panel connecting two adjacent planar panels.

22. *(Original)* The container of claim 21, further comprising an inset in the arcuate panel between two adjacent panels.

23. *(Original)* The container of claim 22, comprising two insets in arcuate panels that are diagonally disposed from one another.

24. *(Original)* The container of claim 10, said container sidewall comprising an upper bumper and a lower bumper and an inset region between said upper bumper and said lower bumper.

25. *(Currently Amended)* A container comprising:
a neck portion comprising
 a finish terminating in an opening;
 a circumferential upper sidewall connected to said finish;
 a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and
 a flange extending radially outward ~~from the neck~~ between said upper and said lower sidewalls, wherein the flange includes undulations on a top surface, the undulations extending radially outward from said upper sidewall;
 a transition region extending from the neck portion to a tubular container sidewall portion, said container sidewall portion comprising
 four substantially planar panels wherein opposite planar panels are substantially parallel; and
 an inset between two adjacent planar panels; and
 a base portion below said container sidewall portion.

26. *(Previously Presented)* The container of claim 25, wherein said container sidewall portion comprises an arcuate panel connecting two adjacent planar panels.

27. *(Original)* The container of claim 25, wherein said inset is in the arcuate panel between two adjacent panels.

28. *(Original)* The container of claim 25, comprising two insets in arcuate panels that are diagonally disposed from one another.

29. *(New)* The container neck of claim 1, wherein the flange is a hollow annular

flange.

30. *(New)* The container of claim 10, wherein the flange is a hollow annular flange.
31. *(New)* The container of claim 25, wherein the flange is a hollow annular flange.